

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 IO-13 ACDA-12 /084 W
-----031992 040645Z /12

R 031948Z NOV 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2822
INFO USMISSION USBERLIN
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 18339

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV BQG
SUBJECT: REPLY TO SOVIET DEMARCHE ON MEETING OF
MINISTER-PRESIDENTS IN BERLIN

REFS: (A) USBER 2832; (B) BONN 17591; (C) STATE 246479;
(D) BONN 16944

BEGIN SUMMARY. THE BONN GROUP HAS REACHED AD REF
AGREEMENT TO A REPLY TO THE DEMARCHE MADE BY THE SOVIETS
IN THE THREE ALLIED CAPITALS CONCERNING THE MEETING
IN BERLIN OF THE CONFERENCE OF MINISTER-PRESIDENTS.
ACTION REQUESTED: APPROVAL OF THE AD REF TEXT IN PARA 3
BELOW. END SUMMARY.

1. AT THE NOVEMBER 3 MEETING THE BONN GROUP REACHED AD
REF AGREEMENT TO A REPLY TO THE SOVIET DEMARCHE
CONCERNING THE MEETING IN BERLIN ON OCTOBER 26-28 OF THE
CONFERENCE OF MINISTER-PRESIDENTS OF THE WEST GERMAN
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LAENDER. THE DEMARCHE WAS DELIVERED ON OCTOBER 12 BY
DOBRYNIN TO AMBASSADOR SHULMAN (REF C) AND ON THE SAME
DATE BY THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR IN PARIS AND THE SOVIET
CHARGE IN LONDON (REFS B AND D).

2. THE BONN GROUP HAS NOT DISCUSSED THE LEVEL
AT WHICH THE REPLY MIGHT MOST APPROPRIATELY BE

DELIVERED. IT WOULD SEEM LOGICAL-- ASSUMING TIMELY AGREEMENT ON BOTH REPLIES -- FOR IT TO BE DELIVERED AT THE SAME TIME AS THE REPLY TO THE SOVIET PROTEST ON THE BAUM STATEMENT (SEPTEL). THERE IS SOME CROSS-REFERENCING OF SUBJECT MATTER IN THE TWO PROTESTS, IN THAT THE OCTOBER 12 DEMARCHE CLAIMS THAT CONCERNS OVER THE MINISTER-PRESIDENTS' MEETING ARE ALL THE GREATER BECAUSE OF ASSERTIONS BY FRG OFFICIALS (READ BAUM) THAT WEST BERLIN IS A LAND OF THE FRG.

3. FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF THE BONN GROUP AD REF
REPLY:

BEGIN TEXT

I REFER TO YOUR STATEMENT OF 12 OCTOBER CONCERNING THE MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS-PRESIDENT IN THE WESTERN SECTORS OF BERLIN. ON BEHALF OF THE (US) GOVERNMENT I AM INSTRUCTED TO POINT OUT THE FOLLOWING:

1. THE CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS-PRESIDENT IS NOT A STATE BODY OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY AND THEREFORE DOES NOT FALL WITHIN THE TERMS OF PARAGRAPH (E) OF THE LETTER OF 3 SEPTEMBER 1971 FROM THE AMBASSADORS OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC, THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE UNITED STATES TO THE CHANCELLOR OF THE
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FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY.

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L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
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-----032082 040644Z /12
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FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2823
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 18339

2. THE CONFERENCE, WHICH HAS ONLY ADVISORY
FUNCTIONS, CAN TAKE NO DECISIONS BUT CAN ONLY MAKE
RECOMMENDATIONS TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE LAENDER
GOVERNMENTS AND THE SENAT OF BERLIN.

3. GIVEN THE NATURE OF THE CONFERENCE, THE
CONFERENCE IS NEITHER AUTHORIZED NOR CAPABLE
OF PERFORMING ACTS IN EXERCISE OF DIRECT STATE AUTHORITY
OVER THE WESTERN SECTORS OF BERLIN.

4. THE TIES BETWEEN THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF
GERMANY AND THE WESTERN SECTORS OF BERLIN MAKE IT ONLY
NATURAL THAT MEMBERS OF THE SENAT OF BERLIN SHOULD
PARTICIPATE IN MEETINGS WITH THEIR COUNTERPARTS FROM
THE LAENDER OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY TO
DISCUSS MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST. SUCH MEETINGS HAVE
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TAKEN PLACE IN THE WESTERN SECTORS OF BERLIN FOR MANY
YEARS. IN PARTICULAR, THE CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS-
PRESIDENT MET IN BERLIN IN 1966.

THE (US) GOVERNMENT CANNOT THEREFORE ACCEPT THAT THE
HOLDING OF THE CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS-PRESIDENT IN THE
WESTERN SECTORS OF BERLIN ON THE 26TH TO 28TH OCTOBER
1977 WAS IN ANY WAY INCOMPATIBLE WITH THE QUADRIPARTITE
AGREEMENT.

END TEXT

4. ACTION REQUESTED: APPROVAL OF THE ABOVE TEXT, FOR
DELIVERY IN CAPITALS AT A TIME TO BE COORDINATED IN
THE BONN GROUP, AND GUIDANCE AS TO THE DEPARTMENT'S
PREFERENCES ON LEVEL OF DELIVERY.
STOESSEL

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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